REMARKS

Upon entry of the present paper, claim 1 will have been amended for clerical purposes, with claims 1-35 pending before the Examiner. Specifically, claim 1, line 14 has been amended to change "to" to ---and---. Applicant notes that such an amendment is appropriate, since Applicant intended to recite in claim 1 that the annular member and retractable holder move "between an operational position . . . and a retracted position . . . (emphasis added)." Thus, the present amendment does not continue prosecution of the application but merely corrects a clerical error to claim 1. Further, the present amendment does not involve a substantial amount of work as only one claim is involved. Thus, entry of the amendment in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.312 is submitted to be appropriate.

Applicant respectfully submits that the entry of the above amendment is proper under 37 C.F.R. § 1.312 since it does not require an additional search or examination, since it is made merely for clerical purposes, and since no new matter is contained therein. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to exercise his discretion and approve the present amendment for entry under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.312.

Applicant thus notes that this amendment to the claims is to be considered merely a clarifying amendment that is cosmetic in nature, and is not intended to narrow the scope of the claims. Accordingly, this amendment should not be considered a decision by Applicant to narrow the claims in any way.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning this Amendment or the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully Submitted, Hiroshi NOMURA

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